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## THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

BY THE HON. VICE-CHANCELLOR MOWAT.

*Read before the Institute, 21st January, 1865.*

GENTLEMEN OF THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE :

I feel deeply the great honor you have done me in asking me to become your President. The honor was a most unexpected one, and I confess it was not without some feeling of dismay that I learned that your choice had fallen upon me. I knew well the value of your Association, having, indeed, been a member of the Institute almost ever since its establishment; but the learning with which my busy life has made me familiar is not the learning which you cultivate; the sciences which I have made a special study, and the arts with which I have had to deal, are not the Sciences or the Arts to which, under your Charter, your attention is restricted. But the choice of me for your President is not my act, but your own: and I feel that it would be unbecoming and ungracious of me to decline the position amongst you which it is your wish, for some reason or other, that for the present year I should occupy.

Your Institute has two objects in view. First and principally, you desire to do something for the advancement of Science. You have done something for it, and will, I doubt not, yet do more. You number amongst your members some who have already a European reputation; and many of the papers which have been read and discussed at your meetings have been deemed worthy of publication